

SENATE BILL 9071

By Bowling

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 6, Part 2 and Title 68, relative to uniform standards for COVID-19.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 6, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) Except as provided by §§ 63-6-218, 63-6-220, 63-6-222, 63-6-223, and 63-6-229, a healthcare practitioner shall not provide a patient who is a minor with medical treatment for COVID-19 without first obtaining written consent from the parent or legal guardian of the minor or pursuant to an appropriate court order.

(b) As used in this section:

(1) "COVID-19" means the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, and coronavirus disease 2019, including a mutation or variant of the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, and coronavirus disease 2019;

(2) "Healthcare practitioner" means a person licensed to practice medicine, including those persons rendering services pursuant to § 63-6-204, and includes a person authorized by state or federal law, rule, regulation, or executive order to administer an immunization, vaccination, or injection for COVID-19;

(3) "Legal guardian" means an individual or entity that has the legal authority to provide for the care, supervision, or control of a minor as established by law or court order;

(4) "Minor":

(A) Means an individual who has not attained eighteen (18) years of age; and

(B) Does not include an individual who has been emancipated pursuant to title 29, chapter 31; and

(5) "Treatment for COVID-19" means a procedure, medicine, drug, therapy, or other form of medical care meant to heal, cure, treat, prevent, mitigate, or otherwise address COVID-19.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.